

ABBA® Voulez-Vous







ABBA Voulez-Vous

■ ABBA Voulez-Vous

Voulez-Vous was first released in Sweden as Polar POLS 292 on April 23, 1979. Recording sessions began in March 1978 and continued until March 1979. The album was recorded at Metronome, Glen, Marcus and Polar Music studios in Stockholm, Sweden, and Criteria Studios in Miami, Florida, USA.

◀ Recording session in Polar Music Studios, December, 1978.

In search of a dance pulse

Liner notes by Carl Magnus Palm

It was a long journey before *Voulez-Vous*, ABBA's sixth album, was completed and ready for release. Between the first recording session in March 1978 and the last, just over a year later, quite a few dramatic changes had taken place within the group. If one should attempt to find a main thread on the album, "rhythm" would perhaps be an appropriate keyword. Several tracks on *Voulez-Vous* were most suitable for dancing, or had a slightly funky feel to them – after all, it was the era when disco music reigned supreme. ABBA delivered their very own interpretation of the dancey atmosphere that coloured much of the world's popular music at the time.

Another key phrase for the album might have been "unreleased tracks", for no other ABBA project would leave quite so many discarded recordings in its wake. The very first session set the tone: an instrumental rocker adorned with the curious working title *Dr. Claus von Hamlet* never reached the record-buying public (16 years later a minute or so of the recording was included in the *ABBA Unreleased* medley of outtakes on the box set

Thank You For The Music). The group was luckier with their next attempt. *Lovers (Live A Little Longer)*, one of those funky tracks that left its mark on the album, featured a seductive lead vocal by Frida, and was promptly included in the track listing. But after that, although ABBA were working hard on the album for the rest of the year, it seemed every second attempted track was scrapped.

In the Autumn, a single was released from the current album sessions: the Bee Gees-inspired *Summer Night City*. The song, which was a Top 10 success in many countries, was slated for the *Voulez-Vous* track listing, but was eventually not included. *Summer Night City* appears as a bonus track on this CD.

The recording was also among the first to be completed in ABBA's own Polar Music studios, which had opened in central Stockholm in May. One of the most modern such facilities in the world at the time, this was where the remainder of the group's albums would be made.

An alternate shot from the Voulez-Vous sleeve session. ➤





While ABBA's latest hit was climbing up the charts, Benny and Frida finally got married after nine years engagement. The October wedding was a low-key affair at their local church, which not even their closest friends had been informed about – including Björn and Agnetha.

In December 1978, ABBA came up with the second single from the *Voulez-Vous* sessions. Initially, it was called *In The Arms Of Rosalita*, but after a re-recording and completely new set of lyrics, the song instead gained the name *Chiquitita*.

1979 had been proclaimed as The Year Of The Child by the United Nations, and ABBA had been asked to perform one of

go their separate ways, a decision that had matured during the previous year. Despite the divorce, they both felt that they wanted to carry on working within the context of ABBA – and that's exactly what they did. Björn and Benny's immediate concern was to come up with more songs for the current album project. They were complaining that Swedish radio played far too little rock and pop that could inspire them to musical creations of their own. To remedy this situation, they decided to go away to the Bahamas for a fortnight. The two songwriters hoped that the round the clock music that was available on a multitude of radio stations in that part of the world would give them the kick they

"Dramatic changes had taken place within the group"

their songs at the televised gala *A Gift Of Song* in the Assembly Hall of the United Nations in New York. They would also donate the royalties of this song to UNICEF. The hopeful tone of *Chiquitita* made it perfect for this purpose. On January 9, 1979, ABBA performed the songs as part of an all-star line-up at the gala. Among the other artists appearing were The Bee Gees, Andy Gibb, Olivia Newton-John, Earth Wind & Fire, Donna Summer and John Denver.

Less than a week after this celebratory event, Björn and Agnetha had a sad announcement to make. They had decided to

needed. It worked: half of the tracks that ended up on the album were in fact recorded during the last two months of sessions, in February and March 1979. Moreover, those tracks included three of the single A-sides that were released from the album: *Voulez-Vous*, *Does Your Mother Know* and *I Have A Dream*.

The backing track for *Voulez-Vous* (the song) was recorded at Criteria Studios, Miami, where The Bee Gees made most of their disco-era records. It was the proximity to the studios from the Bahamas that gave Björn and Benny the idea to try this venture. The musicians they used were members of the disco group Foxy, who'd recently enjoyed a US Top Ten hit with *Get Off*. The

◀ Rehearsing the appearance at the UNICEF gala *A Gift Of Song*.

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rest of the recording was then completed back in Stockholm.

Björn's track as lead vocalist on the album was *Does Your Mother Know*, originally titled *I Can Do It*. Björn certainly could, and this, the last ABBA single ever to be released with his lead vocals, was a sizeable hit in many countries. The strong dance beat of the song probably helped make it popular in the disco dominated Spring of 1979.

Shortly after release of the single, the *Voulez-Vous* album was released, storming to number one in more than 10 countries and reaching the Top 5 most everywhere else. The album had been a long time coming, but record-buyers seemed to feel that it was worth the wait. One other track recorded during the first problematic year of sessions has been included as a bonus selection on this CD. *Lovelight* ended up being released as the B-side of the *Chiquitita* single in January 1979. It has since become something of a cult favourite among the group's diehard fans: many consider it one of the best ABBA tracks not to be included on their original albums.

Incidentally, another of those shelved tracks was a song entitled *Dream World*. Björn and Benny often let bits of songs travel through several compositions before they finally found the right place for them. Once they had decided to scrap *Dream World*, the song's bridge found its natural home in *Does Your Mother Know* (the "Take it easy..." part), which was written a few months

later. *Dream World* itself remained unreleased until 1994, when it was included on the *Thank You For The Music* CD box set.

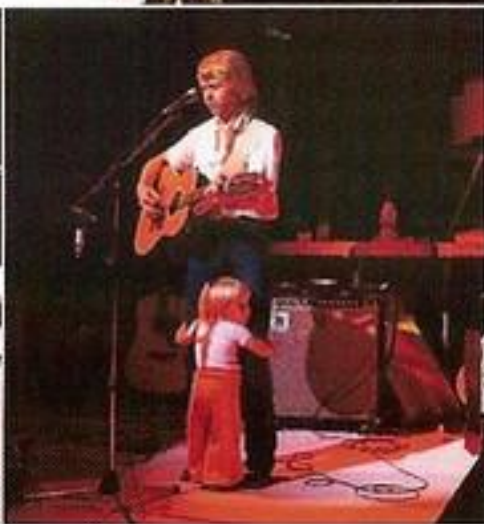
Shortly after the release of *Voulez-Vous*, ABBA started rehearsals for their Autumn 1979 tour of North America and Europe. It was to be the first time they toured the United States and Canada. The group felt that they should have a brand new single released around the time of the tour, and in the Summer Björn and Benny started new songwriting sessions. Backing tracks for two new titles were attempted before they finally came up with the right song, which turned out to be *Gimme! Gimme! (A Man After Midnight)*. Released in October, this new single became one of ABBA's biggest hits of 1979. The song has been included as a bonus track on this CD.

All in all, it had been a successful year for the group: a hit album, several high-charting singles, and sell-out houses everywhere on the European part of their tour. The six nights in a row at London's Wembley Arena was undeniable proof of ABBA's continued strong popularity.

As a commemorative release after the tour, the *Voulez-Vous* track *I Have A Dream* was issued as a single at the end of the year. Complete with a children's choir, the song reached the Top 5 in several countries. But after that, the first year of the 1980s was waiting around the corner: there were new songs to be written, and a new album to be recorded. ■

With engineer Michael B. Tretow at the Polar Music Studio. ➤





01 As Good As New

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvaeus)
Universal/Union Songs AB

I'll never know why I had to go
Why I had to put up such a lousy rotten show
Boy, I was tough, packin' all my stuff
Sayin' I don't need you anymore, I've had enough
And now, look at me standing here again,
'cause I found out that
Ma-ma-ma-ma....
My life is here
Gotta have you near
As good as new, my love for you
And keepin' it that way is my intention
As good as new and growin' too
Yes, I think it's takin' on a new dimension
As good as new, my love for you
Just like it used to be and even better
As good as new, thank God it's true
Darling, we were always meant to stay together
Feel like a creep, never felt so cheap
Never had a notion that my love could be so deep
How could I make such a dumb mistake
Now I know I'm not entitled to another break
But please, baby, I beg you to forgive,
'cause I found out that
Ma-ma-ma-ma....
My life is here
Gotta have you near
As good as new, my love for you
And keepin' it that way is my intention
As good as new and growing too

Yes, I think it's takin' on a new dimension
As good as new, my love for you
Just like it used to be and even better
As good as new, thank God it's true
Darling we were always meant to stay together
I thought that our love was at an end,
But here I am again
As good as new, my love for you
And keepin' it that way is my intention
As good as new and growing too
Yes, I think it's taking on a new dimension
As good as new, my love for you
Just like it used to be and even better
As good as new, thank God it's true
Darling, we were always meant to stay together
Yes the love I have for you feels as good as new
Darling, we were always meant to stay together

02 Voulez-Vous

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvaeus)
Universal/Union Songs AB

People everywhere
A sense of expectation hangin' in the air
Givin' out a spark
Across the room your eyes are glowin' in the dark
And here we go again, we know the start,
We know the end
Masters of the scene
We've done it all before,
And now we're back to get some more
You know what I mean
Voulez-vous

Take it now or leave it
Now is all we get
Nothing promised, no regrets
Voulez-vous
Ain't no big decision
You know what to do
La question c'est voulez-vous
Voulez-vous
I know what you think
The girl means business so I'll offer her a drink
Lookin' mighty proud
I see you leave your table, pushin' through the crowd
I'm really glad you came, you know the rules,
You know the game
Master of the scene
We've done it all before and now we're back to get
Some more
You know what I mean
Voulez-vous
Take it now or leave it
Now is all we get
Nothing promised, no regrets
Voulez-vous
Ain't no big decision
You know what to do
La question c'est voulez-vous
And here we go again, we know the start,
We know the end
Masters of the scene
We've done it all before,
And now we're back to get some more
You know what I mean
Voulez-vous





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Take it now or leave it
Now is all we get
Nothing promised, no regrets
Voulez-vous
Ain't no big decision
You know what to do
La question c'est voulez-vous
Voulez-vous
Voulez-vous
Voulez-vous...
Voulez-vous
Take it now or leave it
Now is all we get
Nothing promised, no regrets
Voulez-vous
Ain't no big decision
You know what to do
La question c'est voulez-vous
Voulez-vous
Take it now or leave it
Now is all we get
Nothing promised, no regrets
Voulez-vous
Ain't no big decision
You know what to do
La question c'est voulez-vous

03 I Have A Dream

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvaeus)
Universal/Union Songs AB

I have a dream, a song to sing
To help me cope with anything

If you see the wonder of a fairy tale
You can take the future even if you fail
I believe in angels
Something good in everything I see
I believe in angels
When I know the time is right for me
I'll cross the stream – I have a dream
I have a dream, a fantasy
To help me through reality
And my destination makes it worth the while
Pushing through the darkness still another mile
I believe in angels
Something good in everything I see
I believe in angels
When I know the time is right for me
I'll cross the stream – I have a dream
I'll cross the stream – I have a dream
I have a dream, a song to sing
To help me cope with anything
If you see the wonder of a fairy tale
You can take the future even if you fail
I believe in angels
Something good in everything I see
I believe in angels
When I know the time is right for me
I'll cross the stream – I have a dream
I'll cross the stream – I have a dream

04 Angeleyes

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvaeus)
Universal/Union Songs AB

Keep thinking 'bout his angeleyes

Keep thinking
Last night I was taking a walk along the river
And I saw him together with a young girl
And the look that he gave her made me shiver
'cause he always used to look at me that way
And I thought maybe I should walk right up to her,
And say
It's a game he likes to play
Look into his angeleyes
One look and you're hypnotized
He'll take your heart and you must pay the price
Look into his angeleyes
You'll think you're in paradise
And one day you'll find out he wears a disguise
Don't look too deep into those angeleyes
Oh no no no no
Keep thinking 'bout his angeleyes
I keep thinking
Sometimes when I'm lonely I sit and think about him
And it hurts to remember all the good times
When I thought I could never live without him
And I wonder does it have to be the same
Every time when I see him,
Will it bring back all the pain
How can I forget that name
Look into his angeleyes
One look and you're hypnotized
He'll take your heart and you must pay the price
Look into his angeleyes
You'll think you're in paradise
And one day you'll find out he wears a disguise
Don't look too deep into those angeleyes
Crazy 'bout his angeleyes

Angeleyes

Once he took my heart and now I pay the price

Look into his angeleyes

You'll think you're in paradise

And one day you'll find out he wears a disguise

Don't look too deep into those angeleyes

Oh no no no no

Keep thinking

Keep thinking 'bout his angeleyes

Keep thinking

Keep thinking, I had to pay the price

05 The King Has Lost His Crown

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvius)

Universal/Union Songs AB

I believe your new girl turned you down

And they say she's pushin' you around

How does it feel, I guess it hurts your pride

Tell me my friend how many nights you've cried

Disaster and disgrace

The king has lost his crown

Suddenly

He's clumsy like a clown

The world is upside down

The king has lost his crown

Was it hard to step down from your throne

And to know tonight you're all alone

Oh what a shame, you really want that girl

She doesn't care, still you just dream of her

Disaster and disgrace

The king has lost his crown

Suddenly

He's clumsy like a clown

The world is upside down

The king has lost his crown

Disaster and disgrace

The world is all around

Suddenly

He's clumsy like a clown

The world is upside down

The king has lost his crown

06 Does Your Mother Know

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvius)

Universal/Union Songs AB

You're so hot, teasing me

So you're blue,

But I can't take a chance on a chick like you

It's something I couldn't do

There's that look in your eyes

I can read in your face,

That your feelings are driving you wild

Ah, but girl you're only a child

Well I can dance with you honey

If you think it's funny

Does your mother know that you're out

And I can chat with you baby

Flirt a little maybe

Does your mother know that you're out

Take it easy (take it easy)

Better slow down girl

That's no way to go

Does your mother know

Take it easy (take it easy)

Try to cool it girl

Take it nice and slow

Does your mother know

I can see what you want

But you seem pretty young,

To be searching for that kind of fun

So maybe I'm not the one

Now you're so cute, I like your style

And I know what you mean,

When you give me a flash of that smile

But girl you're only a child

Well I can dance with you honey

If you think it's funny

Does your mother know that you're out

And I can chat with you baby

Flirt a little maybe

Does your mother know that you're out

Take it easy (take it easy)

Better slow down girl

That's no way to go

Does your mother know

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And I can chat with you baby

Flirt a little maybe

Does your mother know that you're out





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07 If It Wasn't For The Nights

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvén)
Universal/Union Songs AB

I got appointments, work I have to do
Keepin' me so busy all the day through
They're the things that keep me from thinkin' of you
Oh baby, I miss you so, I know I'm never gonna make it
Oh, I'm so restless, I don't care what I say
And I lose my temper ten times a day
Still it's even worse when the night's on its way
It's bad, oh, so bad
Somehow I'd be doin' alright if it wasn't for the nights
(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could make it)
I'd have courage left to fight if it wasn't for the nights
(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could take it)
How I fear the time when shadows start to fall
Stirrin' here alone and starin' at the wall
Even I could see a light if it wasn't for the nights
(Even I could see a light I think that I could make it)
Somehow I'd be doin' alright if it wasn't for the nights
(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could take it)
No one to turn to, you know how it is
I was not prepared for something like this
Now I see them clearly, the things that I miss
Oh baby, I feel so bad, I know I'm never gonna make it
I got my business to help me through the day
People I must write to, bills I must pay
But everything's so different when night's on its way
It's bad, oh, so bad
Somehow I'd be doing alright if it wasn't for the nights
(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could make it)
I'd have courage left to fight if it wasn't for the nights

(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could take it)
How I fear the time when shadows start to fall
Stirrin' here alone and starin' at the wall
Even I could see a light if it wasn't for the nights
(Even I could see a light I think that I could make it)
Guess my future would look bright,
If it wasn't for the nights
(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could make it)
If it wasn't for the nights
(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could take it)
If it wasn't for the nights
(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could make it)
Even I could see a light if it wasn't for the nights
(Even I could see a light I think that I could make it)
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(If it wasn't for the nights I think that I could take it)
Even I could see a light if it wasn't for the nights
(Even I could see a light I think that I could make it)
Guess my future would look bright,
If it wasn't for the nights

08 Chiquitita

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvén)
Music for Unicef

Chiquitita, tell me what's wrong
You're enchained by your own sorrow
In your eyes there is no hope for tomorrow

◀ Making of the Summer Night City video.

ABBA Voulez-Vous

How I hate to see you like this
There is no way you can deny it
I can see that you're oh so sad, so quiet
Chiquitta, tell me the truth
I'm a shoulder you can cry on
Your best friend, I'm the one you must rely on
You were always sure of yourself
Now I see you've broken a feather
I hope we can patch it up together
Chiquitta, you and I know
How the heartaches come and they go,
And the scars they're leavin'
You'll be dancin' once again and the pain will end
You will have no time for grievin'
Chiquitta, you and I cry
But the sun is still in the sky and shining above you
Let me hear you sing once more like you did before
Sing a new song, Chiquitta
Try once more like you did before
Sing a new song, Chiquitta
So the walls came tumblin' down
And your love's a blown out candle
All is gone and it seems too hard to handle
Chiquitta, tell me the truth
There is no way you can deny it
I see that you're oh so sad, so quiet
Chiquitta, you and I know
How the heartaches come and they go,
And the scars they're leavin'
You'll be dancin' once again and the pain will end
You will have no time for grievin'
Chiquitta, you and I cry
But the sun is still in the sky and shining above you

Let me hear you sing once more like you did before
Sing a new song, Chiquitta
Try once more like you did before
Sing a new song, Chiquitta
Try once more like you did before
Sing a new song, Chiquitta

09 Lovers (Live A Little Longer)

B. Andersson/B. Ulvåsa/
Universal/Union Songs AB

Sit down and listen 'cause I've got good news for you
It was in the papers today
Some physician had made a discovery
This is what she had to say
(Doooh you know that)
She said that every result she had backed her
Claiming that love's a longevity factor
So lovers live a little longer, baby
You and me, we got a chance to live twice
Lovers live a little longer, ain't that nice
Lovers live a little longer, baby
What a feeling when I hold you tight
Lovers live a little longer, yeah
I can imagine, I see in my fantasy
I'll enjoy every day
Makin' love is a dynamite drug, baby
So why don't we start right away
(Ahh, we're startin')
I don't care if they're watching 'cause listen
We've got a reason for each time we're kissing
'Cause lovers live a little longer, baby
You and me, we got a chance to live twice

Lovers live a little longer, ain't that nice
Lovers live a little longer, baby
What a feeling when I hold you tight
Lovers live a little longer, yeah
I just don't care if they're watching 'cause listen
We've got a reason for each time we're kissing
'Cause lovers live a little longer, baby
You and me, we got a chance to live twice
Lovers live a little longer, ain't that nice
Lovers live a little longer, baby
What a feeling when I hold you tight
Lovers live a little longer, yeah
Lovers live a little longer, baby
You and me, we got a chance to live twice
Lovers live a little longer, yeah

10 Kisses Of Fire

B. Andersson/B. Ulvåsa/
Universal/Union Songs AB

Lay your head on my chest,
So you hear every beat of my heart
Now there's nothing at all that can keep us apart
Touch my lips, close your eyes,
And see with your fingertips
Things that you do, and you know I'm crazy 'bout you
Kisses of fire, burning, burning
I'm at the point of no returning
Kisses of fire, sweet devotions
Caught in a landslide of emotions
I've had my share of love affairs,
And they were nothing compared to this
Oh, I'm riding higher than the sky,

And there is fire in every kiss
 Kisses of fire
 Kisses of fire
 When you sleep by my side I feel safe,
 And I know I belong
 Still it's making me scared that my love is so strong
 Losing you it's a nightmare, babe, and to me it's new
 Never before did you see me begging for more
 Kisses of fire, burning, burning
 I'm at the point of no returning
 Kisses of fire, sweet devotions
 Caught in a landslide of emotions
 I've had my share of love affairs,
 But they were nothing compared to this
 Oh, I'm riding higher than the sky,
 And there is fire in every kiss
 Kisses of fire
 Kisses of fire
 Kisses of fire, burning, burning
 I'm at the point of no returning
 Kisses of fire, sweet devotions
 Caught in a landslide of emotions
 Kisses of fire, burning, burning
 (I'm at the point of no returning)
 Kisses of fire, sweet devotions
 I'm riding higher than the sky,
 And there is fire in every kiss
 (Caught in a landslide of emotions)
 Kisses of fire, burning, burning
 I'm at the point of no returning
 Kisses of fire, sweet devotions
 Caught in a landslide of emotions

11 Summer Night City

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvåus)
 Universal/Union Songs AB

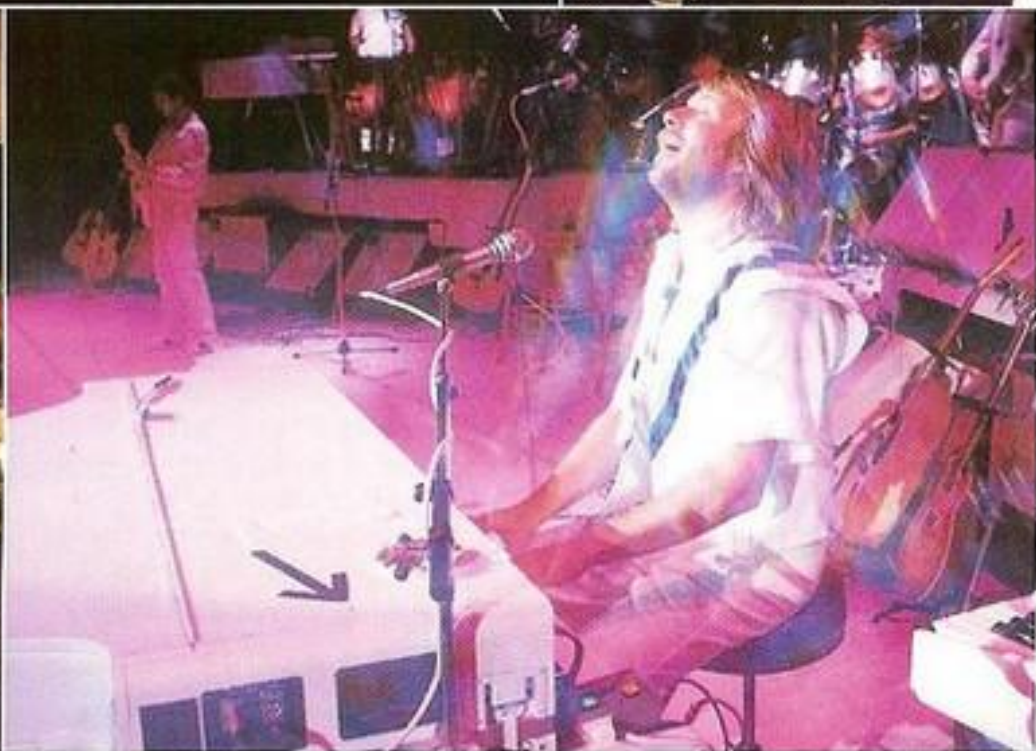
Summer night city
 Summer night city
 Waiting for the sunrise, soul dancing in the dark
 Summer night city
 Walking in the moonlight, love-making in a park
 Summer night city
 In the sun I feel like sleeping
 I can't take it for too long
 My impatience slowly creeping
 Up my spine and growing strong
 I know what's waiting there for me
 Tonight I'm loose and fancy free
 When the night comes with the action
 I just know it's time to go
 Can't resist the strange attraction
 From that giant dynamo
 Lots to take and lots to give
 Time to breathe and time to live
 Waiting for the sunrise, soul dancing in the dark
 Summer night city
 Walking in the moonlight, love-making in a park
 Summer night city
 It's elusive call it glitter
 Somehow something turns me on
 Some folks only see the litter
 We don't miss them when they're gone
 I love the feeling in the air
 My kind of people everywhere
 When the night comes with the action

I just know it's time to go
 Can't resist the strange attraction
 From that giant dynamo
 And tomorrow, when it's dawning
 And the first birds start to sing
 In the pale light of the morning
 Nothing's worth remembering
 It's a dream, it's out of reach
 Scattered driftwood on a beach
 Waiting for the sunrise, soul dancing in the dark
 Summer night city
 Walking in the moonlight, love-making in a park
 Summer night city

12 Lovelight

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvåus)
 Universal/Union Songs AB

I've always hated my room, it's so gloomy and dreary
 Always too dark,
 For the windows just face the back yard
 So I can't understand how it's happened,
 How everything's changing
 This old dirty ceiling seems a little whiter
 When you walked into the room,
 It all got so much brighter
 You must have a lovelight
 Everything around you is lovelight
 And I can feel your love anywhere
 Baby, even when you're not there
 The lovelight
 Everything around you is lovelight
 You're shining like a star in the night



I won't let you out of my sight
 I don't want to lose you,
 I don't want to lose your lovelight
 How I remember the first time we went to a movie
 We had decided to meet on a corner downtown
 And I waited there when you came up from behind,
 And you kissed me
 And the traffic seemed to get a little lighter
 When you came into my life it all got so much brighter
 You must have a lovelight
 Everything around you is lovelight
 And I can feel your love anywhere
 Baby, even when you're not there
 The lovelight
 Everything around you is lovelight
 You're shining like a star in the night
 I won't let you out of my sight
 I don't want to lose you,
 I don't want to lose your lovelight
 And I feel so good
 And I feel so right
 And I know that you must have a lovelight
 You've got lovelight
 And I can feel your love anywhere
 Maybe even when you're not there
 You've got lovelight
 Everything around you is lovelight
 You're shining like a star in the night
 I won't let you out of my sight
 I don't want to lose you,
 I don't want to lose your lovelight
 Everything about you is right
 Let it glow and let it be bright

I don't want to lose your lovelight
 Shining like a star in the night

13 Gimme Gimme Gimme (A Man After Midnight)

(B. Andersson/B. Ulvén)
 Universal/Union Songs AB

Half past twelve
 And I'm watching the late show in my flat all alone
 How I hate to spend the evening on my own
 Autumn winds
 Blowing outside the window as I look around the room
 And it makes me so depressed to see the gloom
 There's not a soul out there
 No one to hear my prayer
 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 Won't somebody help me chase the shadows away
 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 Take me through the darkness to the break of the day
 Movie stars
 Find the end of the rainbow, with a fortune to win
 It's so different from the world I'm living in
 Tired of TV
 I open the window and I gaze into the night
 But there's nothing there to see, no one in sight
 There's not a soul out there
 No one to hear my prayer
 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 Won't somebody help me chase the shadows away
 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 Take me through the darkness to the break of the day
 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight

Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 There's not a soul out there
 No one to hear my prayer
 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 Won't somebody help me chase the shadows away
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 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 Won't somebody help me chase the shadows away
 Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight
 Take me through the darkness to the break of the day

Credits

Musicians: Drums: Ola Brunkert (1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13), Rolf Alex (5), Joe Gallo (2). Percussion: Malando Cassama (7, 9), Åke Sundqvist (13). Bass: Rutger Gunnarsson (1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13), Arnold Paserio (2), Mike Watson (4, 6, 7). Piano: Paul Harris (2). Guitars: Janne Schaffer (1, 3, 4), Björn Ulvæus (3, 4), Ish Ledeima, George Terry, Janne Schaffer, Björn Ulvæus (2), Lasse Wellander, Björn Ulvæus (5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13), Lasse Wellander (6), Janne Schaffer, Björn Ulvæus (7). Banjo: Björn Ulvæus (8). Keyboards and synthesizers: Benny Andersson. Tenor saxophones: Halldór Pálsson, Johan Steingård (2), Lars O. Carlsson, Kajtek Wojciechowski (6), Lars O. Carlsson, Halldór Pálsson (13). Trombone: Nils Landgren (2). Bass trombone: Christer Danielsson (13). Oboe: Jan Rönberg (5). String arrangement: Rutger Gunnarsson (1, 9, 13), Anders Eljas (4, 5). String & horn arrangements: Anders Eljas (7). Choir: International School of Stockholm Choir directed by Kerstin Feist. Backing track (2) recorded at Criteria Studios, Miami (thank you Ron and Howard Albert, Tom Dowd, Don Gehman and Schoilan "Sam" Taylor). Backing track (9) recorded at Marcus Music Studio, Stockholm.

Produced by Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvæus. Recorded and mixed at Polar Music Studio, Stockholm. Engineered by Michael B. Tretow.

Album cover photographed at Alexandra Disco, Stockholm. Photo by Ola Lager (front). Booklet photos by Anders Hanser/Premium Publishing, Ola Lager/Polar Music Int'l, Bengt H. Malmqvist/Premium Publishing, Torbjörn Calverø/Premium Publishing, Sjöberg Classic, Polar Music Int'l. Master tape photo by Tomas Finger. Original art direction by Rune Söderqvist. Art direction and redesign 2001 by Fredrik Hurtig/802. New liner notes 2001 by Carl Magnus Palm, with thanks to Ian Cole and Trent Nickson. Remastered 2001 by Jon Astley with Michael B. Tretow. Reissue supervised by Marko Söderström. Reissue project coordinators: Jeanette Andersson and Margareta Lundström. Thanks to Görel Hanser and Carol Benny.

An alternate shot from the Chiquitita single sleeve session. »

